OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM



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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION RECEIVE

2 COMMISSIONERS KRISTIN K. MAYES – Chairman 3 **GARY PIERCE** PAUL NEWMAN SANDRA D. KENNEDY **BOB STUMP** 5

reasons explained below.

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AZ CORP COMMISSION DOCKET CONTROL

Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

MAR **26** 2010

DOCKETED BY

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF ITS PROPOSED ZERO-NET ENERGY HOMES PILOT PROGRAM.

DOCKET NO. E-01933A-05-0650 DOCKET NO. E-01933A-07-0402

> **TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER** COMPANY'S EXCEPTIONS TO THE RECOMMENDED ORDER

Tucson Electric Power Company ("TEP" or the "Company"), through undersigned counsel, hereby submits its comments to the Proposed Order and Staff Report on its Application For Approval Of Its Proposed Zero-Net Energy Homes Pilot Program ("Application") that was submitted in this docket by the Utilities Division ("Staff") of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission"). The Proposed Order as written would deny TEP's request for approval of the Application. However, TEP believes that the Company's Application should be approved, for

On June 30, 2009, TEP submitted its Application along with the Company's proposed Zero-Net Homes Pilot Program ("Program"). The Company's Application was in response to a Commission decision ordering TEP to evaluate the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of a pilot program to promote a "zero-net residential energy efficiency program" (Decision No. 70628 (November 25, 2008)). The Program would expand the Company's existing New Home Construction Program by adding two high performance tiers, for a total of three tiers. Homes would qualify for one of the three tiers based on a Home Energy Ratings System. TEP would utilize existing delivery infrastructure and marketing to promote all three energy efficient home construction tiers. The additional tiers would also significantly enhance the energy efficiency of TEP's New Home Construction Program, even though it would not achieve 100% zero-net energy.

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As part of its Program, TEP conducted benefit-costs tests. Based on the results of those tests, TEP believes the Program is cost-effective, and should be approved as being in the public The Company believes that the incremental benefits of the Program outweigh the interest. incremental costs - including the fact that the Program can be incorporated into its existing New Home Construction Program.

TEP understands that Staff recommends denial of the Program because Staff believes the Program is not cost-effective. Even so, TEP believes that implementing the Program is a valuable and necessary step towards the goal of evaluating cost-effective zero-net energy home standards. Further, the Program's objectives are to: (1) reduce peak demand and energy consumption; (2) implement programs that include more aggressive energy efficiency standards; (3) encourage installation of solar photovoltaic systems and solar water heaters in new homes; (4) stimulate energy efficiency standards that exceed EPA/DOE Energy Star Homes® performance standards; (5) stimulate construction of new homes that are inspected and tested to assure energy performance; and (6) stimulate the installation of other high efficiency products. Finally, the Program is similar to that being proposed by UNS Electric, Inc. in Docket No. E-04204A-07-0365. Staff is recommending approval of UNS Electric's zero-net energy homes pilot program in that docket.²

TEP agrees with the recommendations Staff proposes in the event the Commission approves the Company's Application. Those recommendations include that the Company market the Program to gas/electric homes, and that TEP file (for Commission approval) an application to continue, modify or terminate the Program within 42 months after the date of the Decision in this matter. TEP also agrees to provide the following information as part of its compliance filing with the requirements established for its existing New Home Construction Program, including: (1) progress toward the goal of net-zero energy homes; (2) information on whether incremental measure and program costs are conforming to expectations; (3) data indicating whether the energy savings estimated for each tier have actually occurred and have been verified in practice; (4)

See Program (June 30, 2009) at 5. See Staff Report, Docket No. E-04204A-07-0365 (March 16, 2010) at 9.

explanations and proposed solutions if participation, incremental and program costs or energy savings are significantly different that originally estimated; and (5) any other information necessary for the Commission to understand the progress and status of the Program.

For the reasons stated above, TEP believes its proposed Zero-Net Homes Pilot Program should be adopted. A proposed amendment for approving the Program is set forth in Attachment A.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 26th day of March 2010.

TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY

By

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Original and 15 copies of the foregoing filed this 26th day of March 2010 with:

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ATTACHMENT

"A"

Attachment A

Tucson Electric Power Company's Suggested Amendment to the Proposed Order

- (1) Page 11, line 16, **INSERT** the following new FINDING OF FACT NO. 24: "While we understand Staff is recommending to deny TEP's application, we believe approving TEP's ZEH Pilot Program is a valuable and necessary step towards the goal of cost-effective zero-net-energy home standards. Therefore, we will approve TEP's ZEH Pilot Program subject to the reporting requirements that TEP must provide with its compliance filing for the existing New Home Construction Program under Decision No. 70458. In addition, marketing efforts should include gas/electric homes. Finally, TEP will file, for Commission approval, an application to continue, modify or terminate the ZEH Pilot Program. TEP will make that filing 42 months after the date of this Decision."
- (2) Page 11, line 23, **DELETE** CONCLUSION OF LAW NO. 3 and **INSERT** the following new CONCLUSION OF LAW NO. 3: "The Commission concludes that it is in the public interest to approve the TEP request for approval of its Zero-Net Energy Homes Pilot Program, as discussed herein, subject to the conditions in Finding of Fact Nos. 23 and 24."
- (3) **DELETE** entire text at Page 12, lines 1-2, and **INSERT** the following: "IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Tucson Electric Power Company's request for approval of its Zero-Net Energy Homes Pilot Program be and hereby is approved, as discussed herein."
- (4) MAKE ANY AND ALL CONFORMING CHANGES.